



## Share in the **CELEBRATION!** Wehr's 40th Anniversary Open House Sunday, June 22, 1-4 pm **FREE**

Please join us as we celebrate Wehr's 40 years of connecting people to nature. There are so many stories to share and just wait to you see the old photos!

- View the Memory Wall
- Walk the Timeline Trail
- Make a plaster animal track
- Listen to stories from Wehr's past
- Watch videos and films from the archives



## Share in the **MEMORIES!**

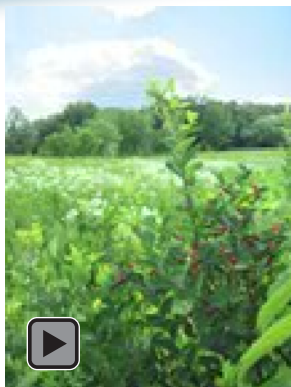
### Help us Tell the Story of Wehr

Send your favorite snapshot from the past to us by May 1. Include details about the photo and your contact information.

## Share in the **INSPIRATION!**

### What does Wehr mean to you?

Send us a photo of the image that best represents Wehr to you. Submit your 8x10 photo by May 1, including your contact information. Photos will be on display at our anniversary event.



For more information about our anniversary, go to:  
<http://www.friendsofwehr.org/40th-anniversary/>

## What's Coming Up...

**In Celebration of Earth Day**  
April 27

**Family Frog Frolic**  
April 25



**Feast Among the Flowers**  
May 3

**Native Plant Sale**  
May 10 & 11

**Reptile Day**  
June 8



**Summer Solstice Social**  
June 21

*For more details click on the event logo*

## 40 YEARS AND COUNTING

*Editor's Note: Retired Wehr Naturalist Karen Kerans is coordinating our 40th Anniversary Celebration. Enjoy her reflection on her 40 years at Wehr.*

I wasn't here on Opening Day, June 11, 1974, but soon after I discovered the many wonders of Wehr Nature Center. The thing that stands out for me from those early years is how many truly knowledgeable and talented people were absolutely dedicated to this place. They felt the importance of letting the general public in on the secrets of nature and the urgency of preserving it for the children of the future. And they gave generously of their time and talents to make it so – staff and volunteers alike. For evidence, just look around. How did our boardwalks get built? Who put up the fencing and built the first Warbler Bridge (which wasn't called Warbler Bridge until years later)? Or the two piers – and their replacements after floods and deterioration left their marks? There really is no end to the list of improvements and accomplishments of our die-hard staff and tireless volunteers.

*[Continued on page 11](#)*



**WE ARE MILWAUKEE COUNTY PARKS**





## Center News

### Building Repairs In The Home Stretch

It has been over a year since we set out to plan and fundraise for critical repairs to Wehr's Visitor Center. Rotting windows and siding needed replacing, animals had to be evicted from our ceiling and new soffits and duct work installed. This spring we are in the home stretch of this long project.

Thanks to the generosity of our many donors, all new windows have been ordered and we will finish installation this spring. It has been an amazing experience to watch the window project create an incredible sense of community around the Nature Center. Even the window installers noticed how much everyone cares. Watch for plaques with donor's names to be in place in May.

The Gardner Room part of the project is behind where we hoped it would be, but forward progress is being made. The work should be done by our 40th Anniversary Celebration on June 22. Please bear with us as you come to visit and hike as you may have to use a different door and there will be limited access to the Gardner Room. These minor inconveniences are worth working through to get an energy efficient, beautiful building.

Make sure you check out the plans and progress of our next exciting project, making Wehr accessible for everyone. Plans are being drawn up for a renovation of our amphitheater and an accessible trail that will connect to our boardwalk. Surveying work will begin as soon as weather permits. Details on the accessibility project can be found on the Friends of Wehr website - <http://www.friendsofwehr.org/accessibility-2/>.

*I wonder where the Gardner Room Bluebirds will nest this summer?*



©Atlas Snubbed

### Staff Shuffles

2014 has been a year of staffing shuffles at Wehr.



On January 18 we sent naturalist and Army Reserves Major Howard Aprill off on his 18 month deployment to Afghanistan with a party, lots of hugs and well wishes. Howard's humor and interpretive skills will be missed by everyone. His wife Paula will provide us regular updates and we will be sending monthly letters and care packages. If you want to send something to Howard just drop it by the Center. We will all be waiting for his return in 2015.

Everyone expected to be announcing the arrival of Wehr's newest family members in the next issue of *Wehr Words* but they just couldn't wait. We think they just did not want to miss Maple Sugar Days! On January 5, naturalist Emily Brown and her husband Jimmie welcomed fraternal twins, Oliver and Lucius, into the world. They are small but strong, and after their long hospital stay, got to go home with their parents in March. Emily will be out on maternity leave this spring, but back at work before summer.



All this change means that Wehr welcomes some new faces to the staff. Ken Keffer will be taking over for Howard while he is gone. We are very fortunate to have someone with such varied experience willing to cover while Howard is deployed. Ken grew up in Wyoming. He considers himself a vagabond naturalist as he has worked not only in Wyoming but Alaska, Mongolia, New Mexico, Maryland and Ohio before landing in Wisconsin. He has spent time studying flying squirrels, voles, camels, and birds. Some of you may recognize his name as he is a regular contributor to *Birds & Blooms* magazine and a co-author of *The Kids' Outdoor Adventure Book*. His book was awarded the 2013 National Outdoor Book of the Year Award. He has two new books to be released this year.



Watch for book signings in our Nature Store.

Kerri Bomberg, a familiar Nature in the Park face, will be pitching in as a part-time naturalist. Kerri comes with an amazing background in geology and teaching. She has worked extensively with youth groups, school field trips, and Master Naturalists. With her skill and expertise she will be able to slip right in and help us through while Emily is on maternity leave and Howard is deployed.





## Friends Of Wehr

### Thank You!

Your contributions to the Friends of Wehr are appreciated and always used with careful consideration.

#### Donations

Dean Rockstad  
Kelly Olson  
Becky Hustad  
Phillip and Mary Nowicki  
Kathleen Reese  
Vivian Corres  
Gary Smieja  
Carlen Schenk  
Helen Flynn  
Susan Gambetta  
Janice Panek  
Angela Leonard  
Al and Betty Siemsen  
Gerald Pollen  
Arthur and Carol Bzdusek  
John and Mary Donovan  
Norm Gunder  
Marilyn Henning  
Ron and Kathy Reese  
Braden Schubring  
Sandra Tesmer  
John Kreznar  
Karl and Nancy Byleen  
Ironwood Foundation  
James and Susan Rieck

#### Memorials/Donations

*In Memory of Georgia Cemirys*  
Diane Lembck

#### *In Memory of Mary Kay Koebert*

Jo Koebert  
Jean Bromley  
Georgia Link  
Audrey Schultz  
Bob and Cheryl Neuman  
Joan Roth  
Mary and Bob Krautkramer  
Chuck and Deb Burich  
Mark and Lori Stolaski  
Corinne Donald  
Mike and Judy Vogl  
Bob and Joyce O'Donnell  
Dianne Anderson  
Sharon Koebert  
Linda Cross  
Candy and Tom Becker  
Jim and Caroline Koebert  
Patty Vaughn  
Theresa Herman  
Larry Acker, Sr.  
St. Thomas Aquinas Academy  
Geraldine Molling

#### *In Memory of John Jubeck*

Mary Gease

#### *In Memory of Linda Luebke*

Kevin Clifton  
Chelsea Lein  
Lauren Grayson  
Bernadine Rayner

Ned and Adrienne Pritchard  
Martin and Susan Flajnik  
Emily Wilson  
Clarence Chou  
Bobbi Miller  
Dawn Zandt  
Indiana University Foundation

#### New Windows

Robert and Anne Housey  
Charitable Fund  
Colleen Resendiz  
Thomas and Muriel Harabes  
Frank Greish  
Jean and Don Knoedler  
Molly Hoholik  
Diane Lembck  
Patricia Casillo  
Carol Block  
Tom Petri  
Georgiana Orthaus  
Charles and Ruth Werkowski  
Tom and Jeanne Rowe  
Ron and Mary Muchenberger  
Margie Jacques  
Susan Rich  
Cindy Barbieri  
Norman Gunder  
Audrey Reineck  
John Mishefske  
Celine Kashishian  
Joy Banyas

Patricia Nakamura  
Joe and Cindy Schaefer  
Fred and Karen Mikolajewski  
Gary Hirschfeld  
Deb Dakich and Doug Michalek  
Lara Steinbach  
Rosemary Selep  
Mary Ann Kniep  
Gary and Diane Jendrzek  
Cindy Barbieri  
Carole Wetch  
Ken and Sally Waraczynski  
Sherman and Sally Stock  
Valerie Wright  
Doug Zoern  
Amanda Struebing  
Sharon and Jim Morrissey  
Christine Double  
Lawrence and Linda Schneider

#### In-Kind Donation

Pat Szmurlo  
Starfire Jewelry  
Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery  
Penzey's Spices  
Diane Lembck  
Potawatomi Bingo  
Marilyn Runge  
Nicholas Nellen  
Ron and Barb Rebernick  
Milwaukee Bucks  
Tim Kant  
Karen Szews  
Karen Kerans  
Janet Hertig  
Mike and Sue Rudolph  
Carl Perkins



## Summer Solstice Social

Help us celebrate the longest day of the year. Join us at sunset for the lighting of the traditional summer solstice bonfire. Enjoy small plate dining and desserts and browse the silent auction that supports Wehr's accessibility project.

**Saturday, June 21, 7-9 pm**

\$15 per person

\$5 upgrades your ticket to include 1 wine/beer token

Thank you to Jackie Crivello's Wild Birds Unlimited for their continuing support in keeping our feeders full and our birds happy. Please support their business located at 4454 S. 108th St. Greenfield.



## Feast Among the Flowers

### Will the Trillium Defend Its' Title In 2014?

Help us celebrate spring and raise funds for accessibility renovations.

Enjoy a delicious dinner, taste wine, browse the silent auction and vote for your favorite wildflower.

**Saturday, May 3rd**

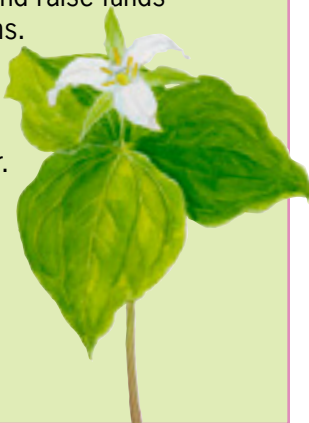
**6-8 pm**

\$30.00 per person

Space is limited!

Pre-registration

is required by May 1.



## Mother's Day Weekend Native Plant Sale

**Saturday & Sunday, May 10 & 11, 9 am - 3:30 pm**

Beautify your yard with native plants from Wehr's annual sale, suitable for sun or shade and wet or dry. This is a very popular sale so come early for the best selections. Use the Early Order Form in this newsletter or download it at: <http://www.friendsofwehr.org/spring-events/mothers-day-native-plant-sale/>. Return the Pre-order form to Wehr with your selections by April 24. This will help assure (but not guarantee) your selections ahead of time.



## Nature Volunteer News

### Upcoming Opportunities for Current Volunteers

**Dotty's Crafters:** Wednesdays, April 2, May 7, June 4; 1-3 pm

**In Celebration of Earth Day,** Sunday, April 27; 12:30-4:30 pm

**Plant Sale,** Saturday & Sunday, May 10 & 11; 9am-12:30 pm or 12:30-4:30 pm

**Earth Care** (Plant related tasks - on the job training provided)

Thursdays, May 29; June 5, 12, 19 & 26 ; 9-11 am

**Reptile Day,** Sunday, June 8; 12:30-4:30 pm

**40th Anniversary Open House,** Sunday, June 22; 12:30-4:30 pm

### Teaching Naturalist Trainings:

Water and Insect Programs: Tuesday, April 29, 1-4 pm

Summer Puppet Show: Tuesday, May 13, 1-4 pm

NIP Library Program: Tuesday, June 10, 10 am - noon

### Ongoing Opportunities

Phenology, Wheel n' Chip, Critter Care, Teaching School Groups, Trail Patrol  
To sign up to help call 414-425-8550.

**New volunteers are always welcome! Contact Mary Gaub today at**

**[mary.gaub@ces.](mailto:mary.gaub@ces.uwex.edu)**

**[uwex.edu](http://uwex.edu)**

**and make an appointment.**



### In Celebration of Earth Day Service Days

#### Invasive Plant Removal

Saturday April 12th  
(9am -11:30am) OR  
(12:30 - 3pm)

Help us tackle the pesky buckthorn and remove it from Wehr Nature Center.

Volunteers check in at Wehr Nature Center.

Please preregister.

Training, tools and gloves provided.

## KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL GREAT AMERICAN CLEANUP

Saturday April 19th  
9am-Noon

Join the nation-wide efforts to "Keep America Beautiful" by helping to cleanup litter in Whitnall Park.

Volunteers check in at Wehr Nature Center.

No registration required.

Bags are provided; please bring your own gloves.



Earth Day

# APRIL

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Hike for Health 10:30 am Dotty's Crafters 1-3 pm	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Birding Beyond the Feeder 9 am-noon
	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Little Wonders Two Year-Olds 9:30-10:30 am Three Year-Olds 11 am-Noon	<b>8</b> Wehr Astronomical Society 7 pm High Resolution Planetary Imaging for Dummies	<b>9</b> Hike for Health 10:30 am	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Woodcock Walk 6:30-8:30 pm
						<b>12</b> Camera Club 9-11 am Wild Ones 1:30-3:30 pm In Celebration of Earth Day Service Day 9-11:30 am & 12:30-3 pm
	<b>13</b> NatureNauts 1-2 pm	<b>14</b> NatureNauts 9:30-10:30 am	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Hike for Health 10:30 am Wisconsin Metro Audubon Society 7 pm Wisconsin Natural Heritage Inventory	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
						<b>19</b> Great American Cleanup 9 am-Noon 
<b>20</b> HAPPY EASTER! Wehr Nature Center Is Closed 	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Hike for Health 10:30 am Sunsets With the Birds 6-8 pm	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Family Frog Frolic 7-9 pm 	<b>26</b> Into The Wild With Mark 8:30 am-4:30 pm Green Living Festival at the Domes 9am - 3 pm
<b>27</b> In Celebration of Earth Day 1-4 pm	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Teaching Naturalist Training 1-4 pm	<b>30</b> Hike for Health 10:30 am	For more information call 414-425-8550 All programs & events subject to change. Parking fees may apply.		

## MAY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 Feast Among The Flowers Fundraiser 6-8 pm 
4 Birding With Paul 7:30 am	5 Little Wonders Two Year-Olds 9:30-10:30 am Three Year-Olds 11am-Noon	6	7 Hike for Health 10:30 am  Dotty's Crafters 1-3 pm	8	9	10 Mother's Day Native Plant Sale 9 am-3:30 pm
11 Birding With Paul 7:30 am Mother's Day Native Plant Sale 9 am-3:30 pm 	12	13 Teaching Naturalist Training 1-4 pm  Wehr Astronomical Society 7 pm Michael Bakach-Editor, <u>Astronomy Magazine</u>	14 Hike for Health 10:30 am	15	16 Sunsets With the Birds 6-8 pm	17 Project WET & Project WILD Workshop 8:30 am-4:15 pm
18 Birding With Paul 7:30 am  NatureNauts 1-2 pm	19 NatureNauts 9:30-10:30 am	20	21 Hike for Health 10:30 am	22	23	24
25	26 Happy Memorial Day Wehr Nature Center is Open 	27	28 Hike for Health 10:30 am	29 Earth Care Crew 9-11 am	30	31

For more information call 414-425-8550  
All programs & events subject to change.  
Parking fees may apply.

# JUNE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Little Wonders Two Year-Olds 9:30-10:30 am Three Year-Olds 11am-Noon	3	4 Hike for Health 10:30 am  Dotty's Crafters 1-3 pm	5 Earth Care Crew 9-11 am	6	7
8  1-4 pm	9	10 Teaching Naturalist Training 10 am -12 pm  Wehr Astronomical Society 7 pm TBA	11 Hike for Health 10:30 am	12 Earth Care Crew 9-11 am	13  8-10 pm	14
15 NatureNauts 1-2 pm	16 NatureNauts 9:30-10:30 am	17	18 Hike for Health 10:30 am	19 Earth Care Crew 9-11 am	20	21  <i>Summer Solstice Social</i> 7-9 pm
22 Wehr's 40th Anniversary Open House 1-4 pm	23	24	25 Hike for Health 10:30 am	26 Earth Care Crew 9-11 am	27	28 Into The Wild With Mark 8:30 am-4:30 pm
29	30					
<div>For more information call 414-425-8550 All programs &amp; events subject to change. Parking fees may apply.</div>						

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## Nature Discovery For Children

### Little Wonders

A program for 2 and 3 year olds to share with their favorite adult

Times: **9:30-10:30 am for Two Year Olds**    **11 am-Noon for Three Year Olds**

#### Mud Puddles Monday, April 7

Spring is here, bringing raindrops and mud puddles. Toddlers will enjoy the story, *Mud* by Mary Lyn Ray, paint with mud (disguised as chocolate pudding), enjoy a puddle-jumping walk and make mud pies. Dress to get messy!

#### Pretty Petals Monday, May 5

Bring your little sprout to this class celebrating seeds and flowers. We will go outside to the Nature Play Space to help plant our children's garden, pot a flower to take home, walk to see spring wildflowers and enjoy a "seedy" snack.

#### Fish Tales Monday, June 2

Come learn about our scaly, slippery fish friends and even dip a pole into our imaginary fishin' hole. We will visit our resident fish in the aquarium and take a walk to the pond in search of friendly fish.



### NatureNauts

A series of fun-filled programs for children 4-6 years old and their favorite adult.

**1-2 pm for Sunday Classes**    **9:30-10:30 am for Monday Classes**

#### All Quacked Up Sunday, April 13 or Monday, April 14

Ducks do more than go "Quack." We'll learn about duck adaptations by making our own duck costumes and then waddle to the pond in search of our duck friends.

#### Wiggly Worms Sunday, May 18 or Monday, May 19

Wiggle and giggle with the worms while exploring their underground world. We will go for a worm hunt, see how worms help us compost, and make an original piece of worm art.

#### Fantastic Fathers Sunday, June 15 or Monday, June 16

Celebrate nature's fantastic fathers! We'll learn how animal dads feed, protect and play with their babies and take a walk to meet some fantastic animal fathers that live at Wehr.

**Pre-registration is required for all children's programs**  
**Deadline is the Wednesday before the program date**  
**Fees: \$10 per child    \$7 Milwaukee County Residents**  
**\$5 Friends of Wehr Members**

## FRIENDS OF WEHR NATURE STORE

### New!

Ideas for enjoying nature and our wonderful Milwaukee County Parks. Get your copy signed by the authors at In Celebration of Earth Day, Sunday April 27, 3pm



### 101 Things to Do In Milwaukee Parks

### The Kids Outdoor Adventure Book



All proceeds go to Friends of Wehr to support the educational programs at Wehr Nature Center. **Open 8:30 am-4 pm**

**Shop In The Beauty Of Nature**



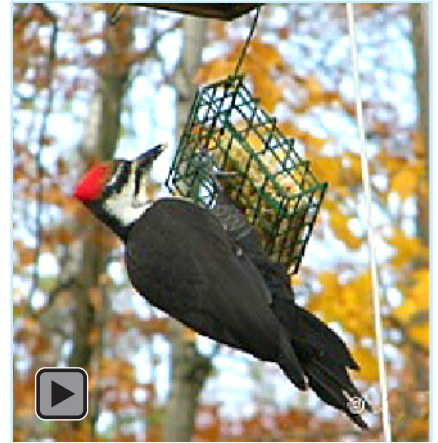
## Nature Discovery for Adults

### Birding Beyond the Feeder: Bird Identification

Are you curious about a bird at your feeder or the songs you hear as you walk in the woods? We will start inside learning basic bird identification and binocular use, then head outside to experience the beginning of migration. For eager early-risers, there will be a pre-session hike at 7:30 am. A follow up session on the mystery of bird migration will be offered on September 20. **Saturday, April 5, 9 am-Noon**  
**Fees:** \$10 per person \$7 Milwaukee County Residents \$5 Friends of Wehr Members

### Woodcock Walk

Enjoy one of the best viewing spots for the iconic “sky dance” of the American Woodcock. After a short presentation about these unique shorebirds of the woods, we'll head out on an sunset stroll to witness one of nature's most spectacular scenes. To establish territories, male woodcock make squeaky “peent” calls and then explode up in flight before acrobatically tumbling back down to the ground. This springtime ritual is not to be missed. **Friday, April 11, 6:30–8:30 pm**  
**Fees:** \$10 per person \$7 Milwaukee County Residents \$5 Friends of Wehr Members



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### Sunsets With The Birds

Partners: *Birds & Blooms* magazine and Wild Birds Unlimited Greenfield  
 Come out and experience nature after work. Local birding experts from Wehr, *Birds & Blooms*, and Wild Birds Unlimited Greenfield will lead evening birdwalks. Perfect for beginners, we will spend some time watching the feeders before heading out for a walk through the woods and the prairie. Don't miss out on the springtime action including warblers, bluebirds, orioles, and more.

**Wednesday, April 23, 6-8 pm and Friday, May 16, 6-8 pm** *Free*

### Into the Wild with Mark

Weekend explorations to regional natural areas of interest lead by Wehr's Natural Areas Manager Mark Verhagen.

**Horicon Marsh & Oakfield Ledge** We will spend the morning at Horicon Marsh viewing migrating birds and some spring ephemerals. After lunch we'll meet up at Oakfield Ledge to see an incredible part of the Niagara Escarpment with some very good spring ephemeral flowers and ferns. **Saturday, April 26, 8:30 am-4:30 pm**

**Glacier State Park** Our destination for this trip is the scenic Glacier State Park in Illinois. Participants can plan on a short presentation by a naturalist from the park and afterwards there will be a hike to see some glacial features and native vegetation.

**Saturday, June 28, 8:30 am-4:30 pm**

**Fees:** \$25 per person \$10 Friends of Wehr Members *Registration is required by the Friday before the program.*

*Transportation is provided or on your own.*



©Jack Bartholmai

### Birding With Paul

Join expert birding leader Paul Boyer for an informative and enjoyable morning of birding. Bring your binoculars and field guide.

**Sundays, May 4, 11, and 18, 7:30-10:00 am** *Free*



## Nature Discovery for Educators

### Project WILD & Project WET Workshop

Join educators, scout and youth leaders in this workshop featuring over 200 activities focusing on wildlife, habitat, and responsible human actions. **Saturday, May 17, 8:30 am-4:15 pm** *Fee: \$65 Registration required by Wednesday, May 13*

Meet real live Bats! Discover the fiction, folklore, and facts on Bats. Learn how you can participate in Citizen Science projects to help our diminishing Bat neighbors.

**Friday, June 13, 8-10 pm**

**Fees:** \$10 per person

\$7 Milwaukee County Residents

\$5 Friends of Wehr Members



### Hike for Health

Hike along with this group that walks Wehr's trails together for camaraderie, exercise and fun. Meet in the Visitor Center.

**Every Wednesday. Time: 10:30 am**

*No fee or registration required; regular parking fee in effect*



## Nature Discovery for Families



### Friday, April 25, 7-9 pm

Hop over to Wehr for an evening celebrating frogs. We will meet some Wisconsin amphibians up close and then stroll out to the ponds of Wehr to listen for the sweet spring sound of frogs chorusing.

Recommended for Ages 5 and older

*Fee: \$10 per person \$7 Milwaukee County Residents*

*\$5 Friends of Wehr Members*

*Registration Deadline: Wednesday, April 23*

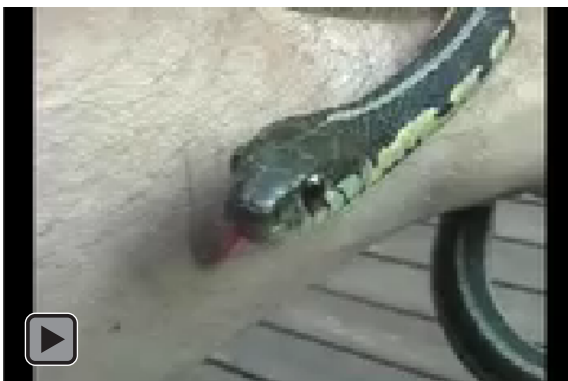
### Sunday, June 8, 1- 4 pm

Discover the world of Reptiles and Amphibians!

- Meet live snakes, turtles, and lizards from Wisconsin and around the world.
- Learn how to live with our misunderstood and scaly wild neighbors.
- Go on a guided, reptile discovery walk.
- Enjoy kid's crafts.
- Refreshments are available for purchase.

*\$3 per person; \$2 Friends of Wehr Members;*

*Children 2 and under are free*



### Sunday, April 27, 1-4 pm

Welcome spring, connect with nature,  
and learn to live more  
lightly on the Earth!

### In Celebration of Earth Day

has activities for your whole family.

- Enjoy a guided spring walk
- Create crafts from recycled materials
- Be part of the vintage manual typewriter "Type-In" and listen to the click-clack of the keys
- Learn to live more sustainably

*\$3 per person; \$2 for members of Friends of Wehr*

### Special Features

**Kohl's Wild Theater 2 pm** (included in admission)

Enjoy and learn from Kohl's Wild Theater, made possible through a partnership between Kohl's Cares and the Zoological Society of Milwaukee. "The KWT Jamboree" is a 30-minute presentation of short skits about animals and conservation perfect for children of all ages.



### Book Signing 3 pm

Meet local authors and get ideas for sharing nature with your children. Books will be for sale in the Nature Store.

Barbara Ali will be signing  
*101 Things to Do in  
Milwaukee Parks.*

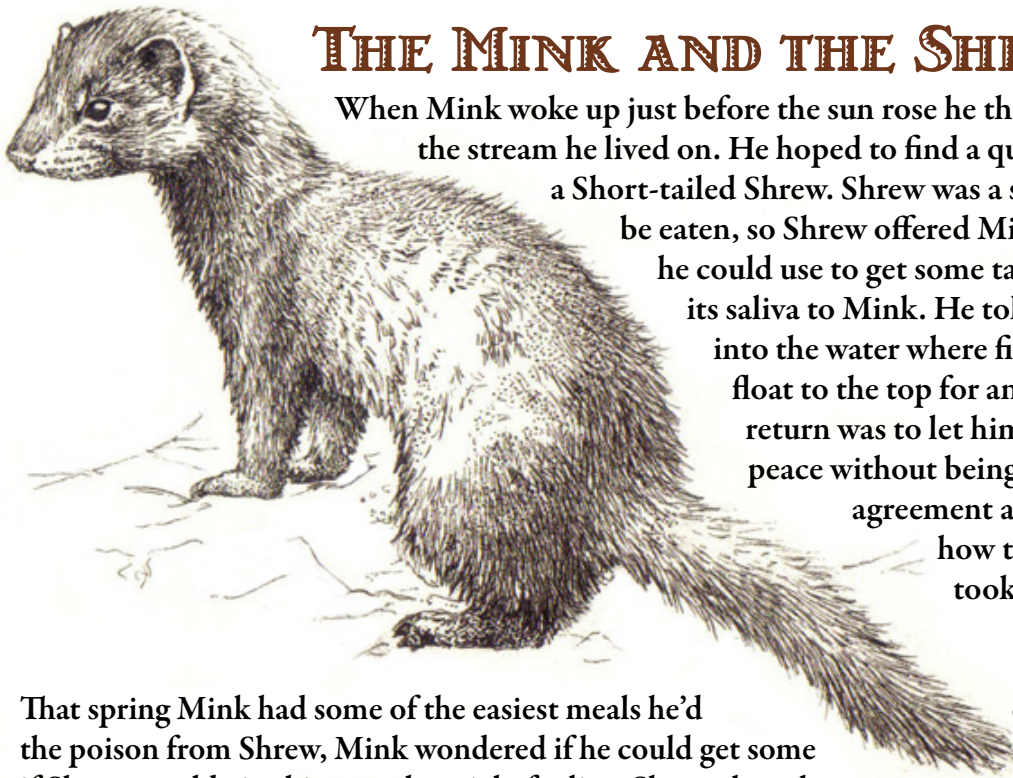


Wehr Naturalist Ken Keffer  
and *Birds and Bloom* editor  
Stacy Tornio will be signing  
their award winning book  
*The Kids Outdoor Adventure.*



1929 - Prairie purchased by M. C. P.  
 1930's - Lake created - CCC - some <sup>acres</sup> <sup>acquired</sup> from Park Commissioners  
 1935 - Tamarack planted  
 1936 - Mallard Lake created  
 1940 - Swimming discontinued  
 1965 - Prairie work started  
 1971 - Prairie grasses seeded  
 1974. Nature Center opened  
 formerly meadow  
 200 acres  
 660 " - Wehr - 6 mi. trail  
 3000 " " + Whitehall Park  
 " " + Root River Phony  
 Mallard Lake - 3 Islands  
 20 acres  
 1.5 mi. around  
 10-12 ft near shore  
 15-20 ft near middle Is.  
 Pherson Creek - Trachys Creek  
 Geographical Meridian  
 90° 30' West Longitude (near Plattville)  
 43° N Latitude

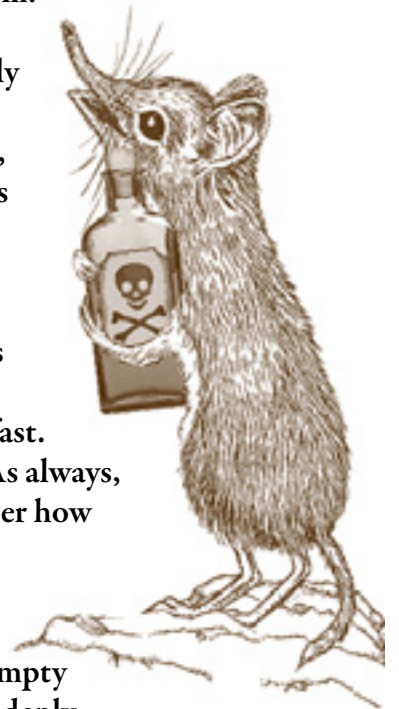
# THE MINK AND THE SHREW



When Mink woke up just before the sun rose he thought he would comb the banks of the stream he lived on. He hoped to find a quick easy meal. After a while he met a Short-tailed Shrew. Shrew was a smart creature and didn't want to be eaten, so Shrew offered Mink some of its poison saliva that he could use to get some tasty fish. Shrew gave a small vial of its saliva to Mink. He told him to pour a drop of the poison into the water where fish were swimming and a fish would float to the top for an easy meal. All Shrew wanted in return was to let him and his family and friends live in peace without being eaten by Mink. If Mink broke the agreement and killed a shrew he would forget how to hunt. Mink agreed and happily took the poison with visions of many easy meals for the next few months.

That spring Mink had some of the easiest meals he'd ever eaten. When he used the last of the poison from Shrew, Mink wondered if he could get some more. The next day he went to see if Shrew would give him another vial of saliva. Shrew thought about this and said he had spoken with some frogs and salamanders that also didn't want to be eaten by Mink anymore, so Shrew would give him more poison if Mink agreed to this. Of course it came with the same warning about forgetting how to hunt. Mink thought about this and decided it was a good deal, so he agreed. He went away thinking this was a very nice arrangement. He started to think maybe he could make more deals with Shrew, so there would be more time to sleep late and play with friends. What a great life Mink had! He didn't have to sneak up on fish they would just pop to the surface ready to eat. He never even had to get wet to catch them.

Some time went by and Mink made more deals with Shrew to keep getting a supply of saliva. All he had to do is not eat shrews, frogs and salamanders (they didn't taste that great anyway), crayfish, small birds and rabbits. Life was good for Mink, especially on warm days when he could just bask in the sun on a log like the turtles always did. After a while Mink realized the only thing left on his menu was fish. He thought if he hunted for a nice tasty rabbit in secret he could make the poison from Shrew last longer. The next morning, while it was still dark, Mink caught a rabbit and had a very good meal of stew. It was delicious and he thought there was no harm in it as long as Shrew didn't find out what he was doing. The next day Mink wanted to use a drop of the poison saliva from Shrew to get a fish for breakfast. He went to his favorite deep spot in the stream and used the poison to get a fish. As always, a nice big fish floated to the top. When he jumped in to get it he couldn't remember how to swim. All he could do is splash around until he grabbed on to a stick to pull himself out of the water. Suddenly an osprey came along and grabbed his fish. Mink kept trying more drops of poison, but every time a fish floated up he couldn't figure out a way to get it before the osprey grabbed it. Soon his vial was empty and he had no fish. Mink was very frightened and couldn't decide what to do. Suddenly, everything became very foggy and Mink felt like he was falling into a deep hole. He found himself waking up in his home among the rocks. It turns out he dreamed the whole terrible ordeal. He couldn't wait to go out and start hunting!



**Editor's Note:** Enjoy this original story written by Wehr's Naturals Area Manager Mark Verhagen. It is inspired by Native American stories that incorporate natural history information and a life or moral lesson.

## MEET THE CRITTERS

### **Mink** *Mustela vison*

**Size:** 20 inches long and up to 3 ½ lbs

**Habitat:** Wetlands and areas along rivers, ponds and lakes

**Food:** fish, mice, rabbits, bats, birds, insects, amphibians, crayfish

**Fun Fact:** Mink have scent glands and can give off a strong musky smell when excited

**Where They Live At Wehr:** By the river, waterfall and in our wetland



### **Short-tailed Shrew** *Blarina brevicauda*

**Size:** 2-4 inches long and up to 1 oz

**Habitat:** Shrews are found in all terrestrial habitats, including our backyards

**Food:** Invertebrates, small rodents, birds, amphibians and reptiles

**Fun Fact:** Short-tailed Shrews have poison saliva that they “chew” into their prey. This allows them to kill prey larger than themselves.

**Where They Live at Wehr:** Everywhere, but most often seen by our bird feeders.



### **Osprey** *Pandion haliaetus*

**Size:** 21 to 22 inches tall and up to 4 lbs

**Habitat:** By a body of water

**Food:** Fish

**Fun Fact:** Osprey have a reversible outer toe that allows them to grasp with two toes in front and two behind, helping them grip slippery fish.

**Where They Live At Wehr:** An occasional visitor to Mallard Lake

**At Wehr Nature Center**  
 9701 W. College Ave.  
 Franklin, WI 53132 In Whitnall Park  
 Open Daily 8-4:30  
 (Check for holiday hours)  
[wehrnaturecenter@milwcnty.com](mailto:wehrnaturecenter@milwcnty.com)



### **COMING SUMMER 2014**

A series of evening nature discovery programs for families.

Enjoy a twilight walk and then share a campfire treat by the fire.

July 11 - Howlin' At The Moon

July 25 - Twilight Travelers

August 8 - Night Flyers

**7:30-9:30 pm**



**Learn more about activities  
and events throughout  
the Milwaukee County Parks**

### **Wish List**

Contributions of any amount will be appreciated for:

**Snapshots and memorabilia from Wehr**

**for our 40th Anniversary Celebration**

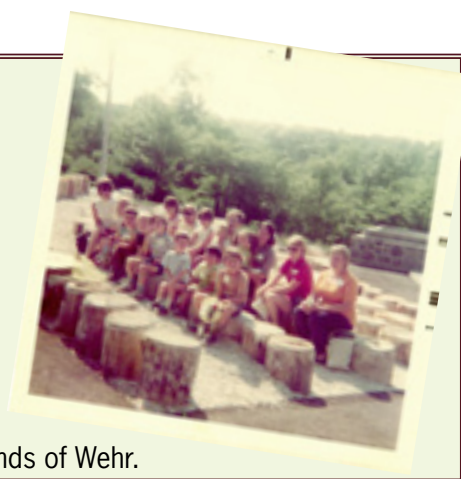
**Adobe Creative Suite 6 for Windows**

**Old Fashioned, Wooden Brace & 3/8" Bit**

**Laser Pointers**

If you are interested in donating any of these items, or would like to contribute money toward their purchase, please contact Deb at (414) 425-8550.

Your contributions are tax-deductible when made to the Friends of Wehr.



**LOOK FOR  
US ON  
FACEBOOK**

**FOLLOW  
US ON  
TWITTER**

**Membership Application: This is an annual membership from January - December**

Mail to: Friends of Wehr 9701 College Ave. Franklin, WI 53132 Make checks payable to Friends of Wehr or renew online at [www.friendsofwehr.org](http://www.friendsofwehr.org)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY-STATE-ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

#### **MEMBERSHIP TYPE**

	Individual	Family
Regular	\$25 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$35 <input type="checkbox"/>
Senior (65)	\$20 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$30 <input type="checkbox"/>
Supporting	\$100 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$100 <input type="checkbox"/>
Volunteer (50 hrs)	\$20 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$30 <input type="checkbox"/>

Payment Method ☐ Cash ☐ Check# \_\_\_\_\_ (payable to Friends of Wehr) Additional Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Charge (Visa MC Discover AE) # \_\_\_\_\_ Expires \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Staff Initials \_\_\_\_\_ Date Received \_\_\_\_\_





# Wehr Native Plant Sale

2014 Pre-order Form

Forms must be returned by Thursday, April 24, 2014 - Sorry, no exceptions (Attn. Mark)



## PLANTS \$6.00 EA. OR 3/\$16.00 or as noted

- All plants come in 4 1/2" pots unless noted below. *Please order by the pot.*
- All efforts will be made to fill orders, but actual stock may prevent delivery.

### SALE DATES

Saturday, May 10 &

Sunday, May 11

9 am-3:30 pm

Wehr Nature Center  
9701 W College Ave  
Franklin, WI 53132  
Ph 414-425-8550

☐ Check to receive pre-order form next year by email

## WOODLAND



- \_\_\_ White Baneberry (*Actea pachypoda*)
- \_\_\_ Maidenhair Fern (*Adiantum pedatum*)
- \_\_\_ Purple hyssop (*Agastache foeniculum*)
- \_\_\_ Prairie Onion (*Allium stellatum*)
- \_\_\_ Wild Columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*)
- \_\_\_ Jack-in-the-pulpit (*Arisaema triphyllum*)
- \_\_\_ Wild Ginger (*Asarum canadense*)
- \_\_\_ Heart-leaved aster (*Aster cordifolius*)
- \_\_\_ Forked Aster (*Aster divaricatus*)
- \_\_\_ Big-leaved aster (*Aster macrophyllus*)
- \_\_\_ Lady Fern (*Athyrium filix-femina*)
- \_\_\_ Common wood sedge (*Carex blanda*)
- \_\_\_ Pennsylvania Sedge (*Carex pensylvanica*)
- \_\_\_ Burr Sedge (*Carex grayi*)
- \_\_\_ Blue Cohosh (*Caulophyllum thalictroides*)
- \_\_\_ American bittersweet - female \*\* (*Celastrus scandens*)
- \_\_\_ American bittersweet - male \*\* (*Celastrus scandens*)
- \_\_\_ Virgin's Bower (*Clematis virginiana*)
- \_\_\_ Rock Harlequin (*Corydalis sempervirens*)
- \_\_\_ Tufted hair grass (*Deschampsia cespitosa*)
- \_\_\_ Wood Fern (*Dryopteris goldiana*)
- \_\_\_ Fancy Wood Fern (*Dryopteris intermedia*)
- \_\_\_ Sweet Joe-Pye Weed (*Eupatorium purpureum*)
- \_\_\_ Wild Strawberry (*Fragaria virginiana*)
- \_\_\_ Wild Geranium (*Geranium maculatum*)
- \_\_\_ Pale-leaved woodland sunflower (*Helianthus strumosus*)
- \_\_\_ Virginia Waterleaf (*Hydrophyllum virginianum*)
- \_\_\_ Bottlebrush Grass (*Hystrix patula*)
- \_\_\_ Ostrich Fern (*Matteuccia struthiopteris*)

- \_\_\_ Sensitive Fern (*Onoclea sensibilis*)
- \_\_\_ Cinnamon Fern (*Osmunda cinnamomea*)
- \_\_\_ Interrupted Fern (*Osmunda claytoniana*)
- \_\_\_ Royal Fern (*Osmunda regalis*)
- \_\_\_ Woodland Phlox (*Phlox divaricata amphamii*)
- \_\_\_ Mayapple (*Podophyllum peltatum*)
- \_\_\_ Jacob's Ladder (*Polemonium reptans*)
- \_\_\_ Zigzag Goldenrod (*Solidago flexicaulis*)
- \_\_\_ Blue Marsh Violet (*Viola cucullata*)
- \_\_\_ Common Blue Violet (*Viola sororia*)

## SPRING EPHEMERAL



- \_\_\_ Rue Anemone (*Anemonella thalictroides*)
- \_\_\_ Spring Beauty (*Claytonia virginica*)
- \_\_\_ Dutchman's Breeches (*Dicentra cucullaria*)
- \_\_\_ Trout Lily (*Erythronium americanum*)
- \_\_\_ Sharp-lobed Hepatica (*Hepatica acutiloba*)
- \_\_\_ Virginia Bluebells (*Mertensia virginica*)
- \_\_\_ Bloodroot (*Sanguinaria Canadensis*)
- \_\_\_ White Trillium (*Trillium grandiflorum*)
- \_\_\_ Yellow Bellwort (*Uvularia grandiflora*)

## PRAIRIE



- \_\_\_ Nodding Wild Onion (*Allium cernuum*)
- \_\_\_ Leadplant (*Amorpha canescens*)
- \_\_\_ Big Bluestem (*Andropogon gerardii*)
- \_\_\_ Canada Anemone (*Anemone canadensis*)
- \_\_\_ Thimbleweed (*Anemone virginiana*)
- \_\_\_ Pale Indian-plantain (*Arnoglossum atriplicifolium*)
- \_\_\_ Butterfly Weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*)

## PRAIRIE (cont.)



- \_\_\_ Sky Blue Aster (*Aster azureus*)
- \_\_\_ Many-flowered Aster (*Aster ericoides*)
- \_\_\_ Smooth Aster (*Aster laevis*)
- \_\_\_ New England Aster (*Aster novae-angliae*)
- \_\_\_ White Baptisia (*Baptisia alba*)
- \_\_\_ Creamy Baptisia (*Baptisia bracteata*)
- \_\_\_ Side-oats Grama (*Bouteloua curtipendula*)
- \_\_\_ Harebell (*Campanula rotundifolia*)
- \_\_\_ Pasque Flower (*Anemone patens*)
- \_\_\_ Fox Sedge (*Carex vulpinoidea*)
- \_\_\_ New Jersey Tea (*Ceanothus americanus*)
- \_\_\_ Sand Coreopsis (*Coreopsis lanceolata*)
- \_\_\_ Coreopsis (*Coreopsis palmata*)
- \_\_\_ Shooting-star (*Dodecatheon meadia*)
- \_\_\_ Purple Prairie Clover (*Dalea purpurea*)
- \_\_\_ Pale Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea pallida*)
- \_\_\_ Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*)
- \_\_\_ Purple Love Grass (*Eragrostis spectabilis*)
- \_\_\_ Rattlesnake Master (*Eryngium yuccifolium*)
- \_\_\_ Flowering Spurge (*Euphorbia corollata*)
- \_\_\_ Bottle Gentian (*Gentiana andrewsii*)
- \_\_\_ Prairie Smoke (*Geum triflorum*)
- \_\_\_ Common Sneezeweed (*Helenium autumnale*)
- \_\_\_ Naked Stem Sunflower (*Helianthus occidentalis*)
- \_\_\_ Oxeye (*Heliopsis helianthoides*)
- \_\_\_ Prairie Alumroot (*Heuchera richardsonii*)
- \_\_\_ Sweet Grass (*Hierochloa hirta*)
- \_\_\_ June Grass (*Koeleria macrantha*)
- \_\_\_ Rough Blazing-star (*Liatris aspera*)
- \_\_\_ Showy Blazing-star (*Liatris ligulistylis*)
- \_\_\_ Prairie Blazing-star (*Liatris pycnostachya*)
- \_\_\_ Marsh Blazing-star (*Liatris spicata*)
- \_\_\_ Wild Lupine (*Lupinus perennis*)
- \_\_\_ Wild Bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*)
- \_\_\_ Prickly Pear Cactus \*\* (*Opuntia humifusa*)
- \_\_\_ Golden Groundsel (*Packera aurea*)
- \_\_\_ Switch Grass (*Panicum virgatum*)
- \_\_\_ Wild Quinine (*Parthenium integrifolium*)
- \_\_\_ White Beardtongue (*Penstemon digitalis*)
- \_\_\_ Downy Phlox (*Phlox pilosa*)
- \_\_\_ Smooth Phlox (*Phlox glaberrima interior*)
- \_\_\_ Obedient Plant (*Physostegia virginiana*)
- \_\_\_ Solomon's Seal (*Polygonatum biflorum*)
- \_\_\_ Mountain Mint (*Pycnanthemum virginianum*)
- \_\_\_ Yellow Coneflower (*Ratibida pinnata*)
- \_\_\_ Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*)
- \_\_\_ Brown-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia triloba*)
- \_\_\_ Swt. Blk-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia subtomentosa*)
- \_\_\_ Wild Petunia (*Ruellia humilis*)
- \_\_\_ Little Bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*)

- \_\_\_ Compass Plant (*Silphium laciniatum*)
- \_\_\_ Cup plant (*Silphium perfoliatum*)
- \_\_\_ Prairie Dock (*Silphium terebinthinaceum*)
- \_\_\_ Blue-eyed Grass (*Sisyrinchium angustifolium*)
- \_\_\_ False Solomon's Seal (*Smilacina racemosa*)
- \_\_\_ Ohio Goldenrod (*Solidago ohioensis*)
- \_\_\_ Riddell's Goldenrod (*Solidago ridellii*)
- \_\_\_ Stiff Goldenrod (*Solidago rigida*)
- \_\_\_ Showy Goldenrod (*Solidago speciosa*)
- \_\_\_ Spiderwort (*Tradescantia ohioensis*)
- \_\_\_ Culver's Root (*Veronicastrum virginicum*)
- \_\_\_ Birdfoot Violet (*Viola pedata*)
- \_\_\_ Heart-leaf Golden Alexander (*Zizia aptera*)
- \_\_\_ Common Golden Alexander (*Zizia aurea*)

## WETLAND



- \_\_\_ Sweet-Flag (*Acorus calamus*)
- \_\_\_ Marsh Milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*)
- \_\_\_ Purple-stem aster (*Aster puniceus*)
- \_\_\_ Marsh Marigold (*Caltha palustris*)
- \_\_\_ Turtlehead (*Chelone glabra*)
- \_\_\_ Porcupine sedge (*Carex hystericina*)
- \_\_\_ Joe-pye Weed (*Eupatorium maculatum*)
- \_\_\_ Boneset (*Eupatorium perfoliatum*)
- \_\_\_ Giant St. John's Wort (*Hypericum pyramidatum*)
- \_\_\_ Blue Flag Iris (*Iris versicolor*)
- \_\_\_ Virginia Flag Iris (*Iris virginica*)
- \_\_\_ Soft Rush (*Juncus effusus*)
- \_\_\_ Torrey's Rush (*Juncus torreyi*)
- \_\_\_ Cardinal Flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*)
- \_\_\_ Great Blue Lobelia (*Lobelia siphilitica*)
- \_\_\_ Monkey Flower (*Mimulus ringens*)
- \_\_\_ Blue Vervain (*Verbena hastata*)
- \_\_\_ Ironweed (*Vernonia fasciculata*)

\*\* *Gallon Pots*

### Totals

\_\_\_ # of pots @ \$6.00 ea. (We will calculate 3/\$16 discount)

\_\_\_ # of Prickly Pear Cactus and Bitter sweet @ \$9.00 ea.

Office use only

WWE

Plants can be picked up the day of the sale Sat. May 10 and Sun. May 11 (Mother's Day Weekend) from 9am–3:30 pm. Payment is due at the time of pick-up. Visa, Discover, Amex and Mastercard accepted. Checks payable to Friends of Wehr.